

NATURAL CAPITAL LEADERS PLATFORM

Natural Capital Protocol: Providing a framework to enable companies to better measure, value and manage their interactions with natural capital.



NATURAL
CAPITAL
COALITION

The [Natural Capital Coalition](#) (the Coalition) has launched a landmark project to develop a Natural Capital Protocol and sector specific guides to achieve a shift in corporate behaviour to conserve and enhance rather than deplete our natural capital. To achieve this, the Coalition brings together global leaders on natural capital in a convening platform to scale action to develop a new Protocol and associated guides. The Natural Capital Protocol will provide a framework for companies to better value, measure and manage their direct and indirect interactions with Natural Capital.

On behalf of the Coalition, CISL (with EY, IUCN, Trucost, True Price and IERS) will engage with companies through a business hub to inform the development of the Natural Capital Protocol and to test the drafts as they become available.

Opportunity to shape the Natural Capital Protocol

What is the opportunity?

There is now the opportunity to begin influencing the new Protocol by participating in the development of the Protocol and/or Sector Guides. This is an exciting prospect to be at the cutting edge of natural capital accounting and valuation, where involvement of business users from an early stage will not only enable business to shape the Protocol itself but also be on the front foot in testing it as it becomes commonly used in the market. The aim is to deliver a Protocol that drives value for business and that achieves widespread endorsement and take-up upon final launch.

How can business participate?

Business can participate in two ways:

1. **Business Engagement Partners** will be consulted at key points in the 18 month Natural Capital Protocol project to provide feedback and inform its development.
2. **Pilot Tester Organisations** will test some aspect of the protocol or sector guide on a project that is relevant to their business. Testing will commence in Spring/Summer 2015.

1. Business Engagement Partners

Business Engagement Partners will be consulted through a structured interview process at the outset of the programme to discuss the proposed scope and objectives of the protocol, to understand any current perceptions, perceived barriers to adoption, expectations of what the protocol should be and to capture any learnings you may have from previously applying Natural Capital measurement or valuation methods in your business.

These consultation findings will then feed directly into the drafting of the first version of the protocol that is expected to be released in

Summer 2015. As a Business Engagement Partner corporates would then be consulted at key points in the development of the protocol as subsequent drafts become available over the next 18 months to gauge the extent to which it is meeting business needs and the extent to which it is 'fit for purpose' for deploying in organisations.

The first point of engagement for Business Engagement Partners will be January/February 2015 when the interviews regarding Protocol outline will take place.

2. Pilot Testing Organisations

From the Business Engagement Partners we are seeking to identify a subset of organisations that would be willing to pilot test some aspect of the protocol or sector guide on a project that is relevant to your business. Pilots will be scoped according to your needs and could be as 'light' or extensive as you may wish. Pilots will be discussed and scoped between June to October 2015 in your capacity as a Business Engagement Partner.

Pilot testing will begin on 5 October 2015 until 26 February 2016. Pilot tests will be based on version 0 of the Protocol / Sector guides that will be available in October 2015. We will gather a

rich source of market testing data to inform the development of the final protocol.

Please note that if you require technical support for pilot testing, we will endeavour to accommodate your needs. CISL will be responsible for co-ordinating all pilot activity and will establish a 'pilot hub' for pilot organisations to share their findings in a confidential forum. Pilot organisations will also receive a detailed briefing from the technical drafting team at the outset of the pilots. The feedback from the pilots will be used to further develop the Protocol. There will also be an opportunity to showcase pilot studies should businesses wish to take advantage of additional reputational benefits.

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